

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following *new* paragraph on page 1, between lines 2 and 3:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This U.S. National stage application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) to Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-432123, filed in Japan on December 26, 2003, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the heading at page 2, line 18, with the following rewritten version:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION ~~DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION~~

Please replace the heading at page 5, line 21, with the following rewritten version:

**~~BEST MODES FOR CARRYING OUT~~ DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE
INVENTION**

Please change the heading at page 14, line 1 as follows:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: ~~CLAIMS~~